

## THE ARMENIAN ATROCITIES ARE A PART OF THE Czar's Plan to Provoke a War with Turkey.

**VIEW OF EX-MINISTER STRAUS.**

See Picture of the Sultan and His Character, as Shown at the Time of the Johnstown Disaster.

HE IS ONE OF THE PEACE MONARCHS.

The Turkish Army Never Was in Better Trim and the Soldiers Know No Fear.

no administrative process in Turkey by which unnumbered thousands are sent to a hell world that is described by Dante. I must believe that.

"As one of the best illustrations of the kind-heartedness of the Sultan," continued Mr. Straus, "not a single person has been executed during the reign. In Turkey all executions have to have his sanction. He has repeatedly refused it, and he commutes the sentences of the courts of criminals to not exceeding 15 years' imprisonment. He is a very humane man, and this is evidenced by the fact that whenever there is a famine or any distress in his empire he always sends a considerable sum from his own private purse to the sufferers."

**THE JOHNSTOWN DISASTER.**

"As an evidence of his kindness of heart at the time of the Johnstown disaster, I had an audience with him on some diplomatic matters. He expressed his sorrow at the trouble of our citizens, and begged to be allowed to give a small sum to aid in their relief. The next day he sent me \$200, or \$1,000, and I believe he is the only monarch who has extended such aid at that time in such a substantial manner."

"Is the Sultan a man of ability?"

"In the first place the Sultan," replied Mr. Straus, "probably exceeds more care, anxiety, and attention upon his duties, as the ruler of the Empire, than any other monarch of Europe. He is indefatigable, and his Ministers are frequently summoned to the palace at midnight to confer with him upon some question of State. All important matters pass under his hand. His tendency is to assume power and to go to great lengths in the execution of his policy. He is a little bit of a despot, but he gives too little of his work to subordinates. He tries to inform himself upon all matters, and he receives through the various channels of the Government."

**LOOKS LIKE JAY GOULD.**

"Tell me how the Sultan looks?"

"The Sultan is a man of about 48 years of age," Mr. Straus replied. "He is of a Turkish type, but he looks very like Jay Gould. He has a pale complexion and black beard and mustache, and jet black hair. He is of an extremely good nature, and he speaks only the Turkish tongue, in a slow deliberate manner, and in a quiet, subdued tone. He has a mild and pleasant eye, and he places those whom he likes at their immediate ease. His manners, while reserved, are kind and cordial."

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"The country of the Armenians," said he, "lies in the northwestern corner of the Turkish Empire in Asia. They have one of the oldest lands in the world. Mount Ararat is supposed to be in it, and they claim, whether true or not, that it is to have the original site of the Garden of Eden. They are much in the same condition as Poland and have been partitioned about until the war of 1878, when they were given a slice of her territory and want more. Turkey has a slice and another part belongs to Persia. There are between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 Armenians in the Turkish Empire, and between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 in the world."

**THEY ARE MONEY MAKERS.**

"They are a very shrewd, quick-witted race, and in many respects they are compared to the Hebrews. They are a people held together by religion, by traditions, and by race prejudices, and they are to a large extent a people without a country. Most of the Turkish emigrants to America are Armenians. They are the money changers and bankers of the East, and they do business all through the Levant. They are pushing and progressive, and they are within their limitations enjoying the brightest business people of the world today."

"The Sultan recognizes the ability of the Armenians," Mr. Straus said. "He employs them largely in his public offices. Most all of the under secretaries of various Government departments are Armenians, and he employs them in the Ministry of Finance, Agronomy, and the Ministry of the Interior. He is a man of the same race."

**RELIGION IN TURKEY.**

"These Armenians are all Christians, but they are all of different sects. They are all under the same religious authority, and their own patriarchs and their own ceremonies of worship. As to their religion the Government of Turkey has always treated them as Christians, and they are always been recognized and conceded to all such sects. This has been so since the fall of Constantinople, in 1452, and this freedom of religion is one of the great features of Russia, which even at the present day does not concede that to the dissenting sects within her empire. The fact is that the Armenians of Turkey, notwithstanding considerable martyrdom, are today enjoying more liberty than the Armenians of Russia."

"But how about the foreign telegrams. They tell a very different story."

"Yes," said Mr. Straus, "but these reports are undoubtedly exaggerated, and much of the Russo-Turkish news that reaches the outside world is doctored to suit the political purposes of the Government, and the malcontents of other nations wherever it may be."

**THE OLD STORY REPEATED.**

"Both the Crimean War and the Russo-Turkish War of 1877 and 1878 were begun by Russia under the pretext of protecting the Christian subjects of the Sultan. This is the high and holy Shibboleth, of which Russia always herself to keep her greed for territory in the Orient. She began the war in 1878 by sending her agents into Turkey to stir up the Christian population. She is doing the same thing in Turkish Armenia today, and her agents are doing the same thing in the papers will show that Russia is pulling the wires which are at the real root of the trouble."

"I don't mean to deny that there was considerable murder in the outlying provinces of the Turkish Empire and that this murder is accounted for in such provinces as Turkish Armenia, and in the provinces of the vilayet of Van. This, however, is not to be attributed to any intention on the part of the Sultan or the Sultanate. It is the result of the Armenian officials of the empire, including the late Minister of Finance and the Under Secretary of State to devise means for the better government of the portion of Turkey inhabited by Armenians. I know from my own knowledge and from the various conversations I have had with the Sultan that he is a man of peace, and the purpose nearest his heart is to rule in such a way as to satisfy the various elements of the empire. This is not only in line of his policy, but it is in line of his estimate and make of his character and disposition."

"Has the Sultan ever shown any desire to quell the disturbances and to protect these elements?"

"He has repeatedly," replied Mr. Straus. "He has charged the Governors General, and again when it has appeared that such Governors were not properly solicited, such Christian subjects. This has been done in the line of his policy to maintain peace in his empire."

**NO MISERIA IN TURKEY.**

"How as to the prisoners?" I asked.

"The prisoners in oriental countries are like the streets in oriental countries—in a very dirty and bad condition. The Turkish jails are not so bad as those in Russia. There is no Siberia in Turkey and there is

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**BAD WHISKY FROM A BLACK MAN.**

Visit to a Baptist Meeting to Witness a Little Lasting Woo.

**THE LADIES EXCHANGE CIVILITIES.**

(CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.)

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## MARKETS OF CITIES.

**New York Has the Largest and Best Supply in the Country.**

**FISH FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.**

**Harrisburg's Old-Fashioned Dried Market and Its Novelty.**

**FRENCH BAZAARS OF NEW ORLEANS**

(CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.)

NEW YORK, August 30.—The ex-closure laws which Congress has enacted, the tide of Mongolian immigration continues unabated, and the Chinese population of New York has passed the 10,000 mark, and is now rapidly running into higher figures. It is also increasing in prominence, wealth, power and popularity. The best evidence of this is the fact that the Mongolian clubs and their club rooms, although it is very hard to tell the difference between a Chinese club and a Chinese club room. In both there is some representation of the deity; in both they wear their hats, smoke cigars and cigarettes, drink ale, wine, beer, play dominoes, dice and cards, and have breakfast, luncheon and dinner.

**AN OVERHEATED AFFAIR.**

A visit to the famous French market in New Orleans was made during the month of May. It is greatly overrated. The market houses are long, barn-like, one-story buildings, and are found in small clusters. The center of the market is a building, and is taken up with coffee and lunch stands, and cleanliness is the leading characteristic. The coffee stands containing hot coffee, shine as brightly as all the rest of the market, with cream and sugar, and two dainty French rolls can be had for the modest sum of 10 cents. The bill-of-fare has a conspicuous place in the market, and stands, with the prices of the dishes served.

**THE NEW YORK FISH MARKET** is especially fine. Walk down Fulton street to the ferry and you will find a vast number of fish, crabs and terrapin. At the stalls are found many representatives from nearly every part of the United States, and an experiment has been tried of bringing fish from the Pacific to this market. The Yaguna Deep Sea Fishing Company, of Portland, Ore., had a steamer equipped last year for the purpose of traveling between the fishing grounds of the Pacific and the market, in order that the catch might reach the East in good order.

**THE LADIES STAY AWAY.**

It is not customary for ladies to do their own marketing in New York. The people who do the marketing are the men, the women, who do the buying for their families, stewards of large hotels and boarding house keepers.

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